

DPH-15



ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Monthly Report -- Seoul Bureau

FROM:

Chief, Operations Group

EXTENSION

NO.

DATE

April 1988

STAT

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1.

AC/Ops

23 MAY 1988

2.

3.

C/E&PS

24 May

4.

DD/FBIS

24 May

5.

D/FBIS

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R

6.

7.

PO/RA

5/25

Om

8.

SA/CD

5/25

Ent

9.

10.

C/AS

27 May

CD

11.

C/B&F/AS

12.

13.

14.

C/AG

31/5

15.

Exec. Reg.

FORM 1-79

610

USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS



EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE
SEOUL BUREAU



6 May 1988
FBIS-5612-88

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT: Monthly Report -- Seoul Bureau -- April 1988

I. GENERAL

Once again political events in the Republic of Korea defied the conventional wisdom of political commentators. For the first time in the 40-year history of the Republic the ruling party failed to win a majority in the National Assembly elections. With the lowest voter turnout since the 1963 Assembly elections, the ruling DJP must now deal seriously with the opposition parties in governing the country. Although many had predicted the end of the era of the "three Kims" after the divided opposition had virtually handed the presidential election to ruling party candidate No Tae-u, Kim Tae-chung, Kim Yong-sam, and Kim Chong-pil have returned to prominence following their parties' strong showing in the election, with Kim Tae-chung's PPD taking over from Kim Yong-sam's RDP as the largest opposition party.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Editorial/Monitorial

1. The Bureau extended its operations to 24 hours on 26 April to cover the ROK National Assembly election returns. Opposition charges of vote fraud carried by the Christian Broadcasting System Network radio station were soon forgotten when the weak showing of the ruling DJP in the elections became evident early on the morning of 27 April. Bureau hours were also extended on the night of 27 April to file the final election results as well as to handle the death of North Korean Vice President Yim Chun-chu.

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2. Monitorial scheduling was adjusted to cover North Korea's Supreme People's Assembly session in early April and the Korean People's Army celebration on 24 April, both of which produced a significant volume of high precedence material for processing. Special arrangements were made with the UN Command to expedite shipment of the tape containing Pyongyang television coverage of the SPA session to report the leadership turnout to determine the extent of recent changes. AG expressed its appreciation for the prompt handling of the television coverage.

3. Okinawa Bureau has supplied software to enable the Bureau to capture Pyongyang KCNA English press casts on computer diskette. Although initial use of this method has slowed down processing of the cast, it will prove useful in familiarizing editors and communicators with handling automated press casts in anticipation of field bureau automation.

4. The Bureau has begun to receive TIANJIN RIBAO through a subscription placed by Okinawa Bureau with a bookstore in Japan. The subscription came through just in time to allow coverage of the Tianjin Municipal CPC congress.

5. Bach 2.1 was received and installed and the Bureau began using the new message format on 25 April. Chief/Communications reported there were "only minor problems" in messages received and encouraged the Bureau to "keep up the good work."

B. Communications

1. A primary circuit outage on 13 April for a satellite rehome provided the opportunity for use of the IDD modem in an actual operational situation. The system itself proved capable of doing the job, but operator errors both here and at Okinawa Bureau slowed the relay of messages, demonstrating that regular practice is necessary before the IDD circuit can be considered a reliable alternative.

2. During the same primary circuit outage Embassy CPU offered the possibility of an alternate 75-baud circuit for use in an emergency. Tests of the circuit were unsuccessful, but CPU agreed to do more work on the circuit for possible future use.

C. Lateral Services

1. On 20 April the Bureau began taping four Soviet regional broadcasts for shipment to the BBC while Okinawa Bureau's antenna renovation project is underway.

2. A lengthy NODONG SINMUN article was processed at BBC request.

3. The Bureau is providing regular updates of the dollar-won exchange rate in response to a consumer request relayed by Liaison.

4. A request from a military consumer in Hawaii for Pyongyang TV footage of Prince Sihanouk's stay in the DPRK was forwarded to MOD.

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5. The Bureau conducted a special taping project of the clandestine Voice of National Salvation broadcasts at Headquarters' request.

D. Technical

1. The Bureau received one Telebit Trailblazer Plus modem (s/n 118030381), two Watkins Johnson WJ-8718a receivers (s/n 3964, 3960), and one monochrome display board for a Victor computer from Headquarters.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. [] editorial trainee, arrived for his training TDY on 16 April.

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2. Korean monitorial trainee [] resigned 28 April leaving the tenth Korean monitorial position vacant. The Bureau is taking steps to fill the position as soon as possible.

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IV. VISITS

1. [] Chief/Engineering Support Group, for Bureau familiarization on 14-18 April.

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2. [], senior Washington-area Korean analyst, for discussion of coverage on 8 April.

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Acting Chief, Seoul Bureau

Attachment:
Monthly Production Report

cc: Chief, Okinawa Bureau
Chief, Hong Kong Bureau

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	697480
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	173430
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	1927

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: (minutes or issues per week)	13685.00 min	5510.00 min	127.69 min
III. OUTPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: (publishable words per month)			

CLANDESTINE

(Clandestine) Voice of National Salvation in Korean to South Korea	117600
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CHINA

Beijing International Service in Korean	1240	
Beijing City Service in Mandarin	620	
Changchun Jilin Provincial Service in Mandarin	4390	
Harbin Heilongjiang Provincial Service in Mandarin	8050	
Hohhot Nei Monggol Regional Service in Mandarin	5980	
Jinan Shandong Provincial Service in Mandarin	8520	
Shenyang Liaoning Provincial Service in Mandarin	3970	
Shijiazhuang Hebei Provincial Service in Mandarin	1850	
Tianjin City Service in Mandarin	3630	
Beijing, BEIJING RIBAO in Chinese		5180
Harbin HEILONGJIANG RIBAO in Chinese		10750
Hohhot NEIMENGGU RIBAO in Chinese		900
Jinan DAZHONG RIBAO in Chinese		12580
Shenyang DONGBEI JINGJI BAO in Chinese		1500
Shenyang LIAONING RIBAO in Chinese		11440
Shijiazhuang HEBEI RIBAO in Chinese		17920
Tianjin TIANJIN RIBAO in Chinese		1600
Harbin HUNGYONGCANG SINMUN in Korean		-
Yanji CHONGCHAP CHAMGO in Korean		-

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
KOREA (NORTH)			
Pyongyang in Korean to South Korea in Korean	-		
Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean	102580		
Pyongyang Television Service in Korean	2950		
Pyongyang KCNA in English		146790	
Pyongyang KULLOJA in korean			-
KOREA (SOUTH)			
Seoul Christian Broadcasting System Network in korean	120		
Seoul Domestic Service in Korean	4600		
Seoul MBC Network in Korean	-		
Seoul MBC Television Network in Korean	850		
Seoul Television Service in Korean	15800		
Seoul YONHAP in English		59320	
Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean			3700
Seoul CHUANGANG ILBO in Korean			3520
Seoul Editorial Report on ROK Media in Korean			1400
Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean			1850
Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean			4100
Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean			2800
Seoul SINTONG-A in Korean			-
Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English			93100
Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English			134150
Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean			1400
Seoul WOLGAN CHOSON in Korean			-
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS			
Moscow International Service in Korean	730		